Planning in AIMS/SAP

Planning is the term for Budgeting in SAP. Planning takes on a much different form in SAP than it did in Excel. The purpose of this course is to familiarize you with these changes so you may enter your budget without trepidation. Once you see how the process works and how to review the data, you will see that planning in SAP can enhance your budgeting experience.



Background

Planning in SAP is used for enforcing spending caps within the system and is done for a combination of cost centers and cost elements. There are three areas one must keep in mind while working in the Planning module. These are:

- Fiscal Periods/Years
- Plan Versions
- Planning Profiles



Fiscal Periods/Years

Plans are entered and saved by fiscal period and fiscal year. Periods must have a beginning period and an ending period. If you are only entering one month, then the beginning period is the same as the ending period.

When entering data you must ensure that you have identifed the correct period. For example, if you are entering data for the entire FY, you must enter periods 1 through 12. If you are entering data for a specific month, April, then you must specify 7 through 7.

You must also be aware of what Fiscal Year you are entering data for. For purposes of this class, you will all be entering data for FY 2004.

The plans can (and will) be locked by HQ for each fiscal year to prevent plans from being overwritten and/or entered into the wrong year.



Plan Varsions

Plan versions are just what the name implies, different versions, or scenarios, of your budget. You may have multiple versions of the same fiscal year plan but only one will be submitted to NPC for approval. The version that is submitted as the 'actual' budget will be locked in August/September time frame so that it cannot be altered but the remaining versions will be left open for you to amend as you see fit.

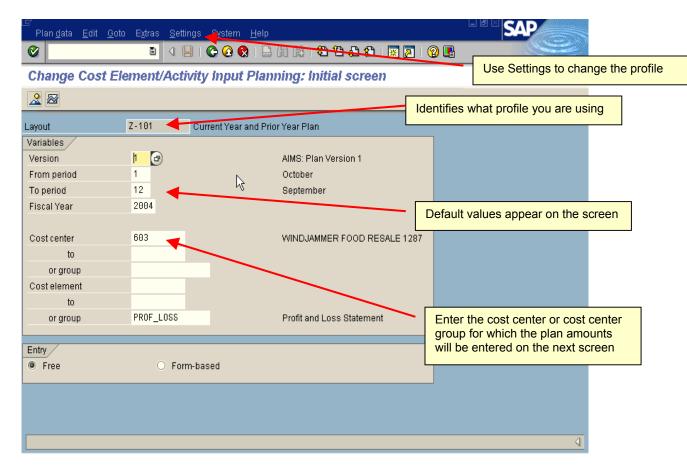
For FY-04, HQ will set up a Version 1 for your entire fund by copying over your PY actual data. This is the version where you will actually input and change the data to come up with your FY-04 budget. Once this data has been modified and approved, it will be copied to Version 0 and locked. This will be your final budget for submission and approval. SAP will default automatically to Version 1 and will not respond if it is changed to Version 0. If you wish to start completely from scratch, then begin entering in data in a version other than 1.



Plan Profiles

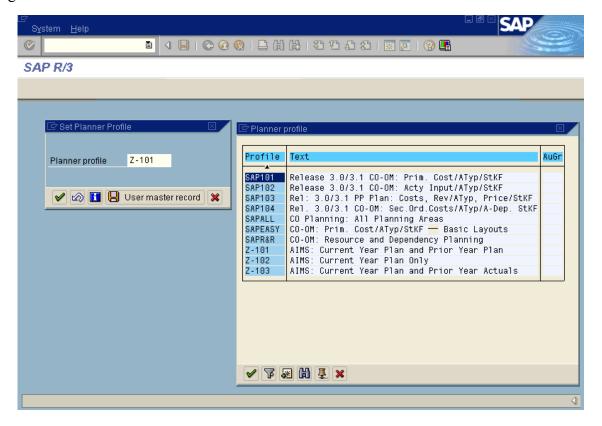
Plan Profiles are the way SAP displays the planning data. We have set up three different profiles for you to choose from. Keep in mind that different profiles can be used by different managers and for different cost centers. It's a personal preference thing. The profiles are:

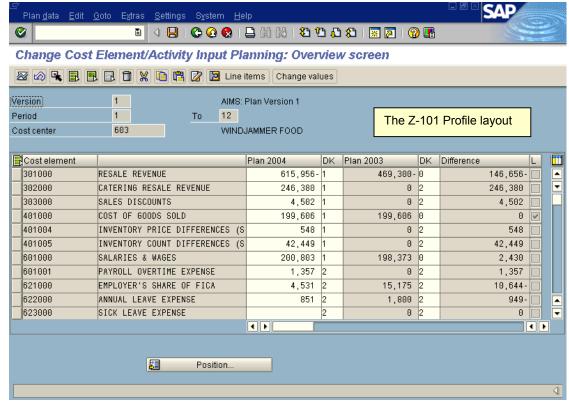
- Z-101: Displays the specified (upcoming) fiscal year planning data along with the prior year planned data.
- Z-102: Displays only the specified (upcoming) fiscal year.
- Z-103: Displays the specified (upcoming) fiscal year data along with the current year actual data.

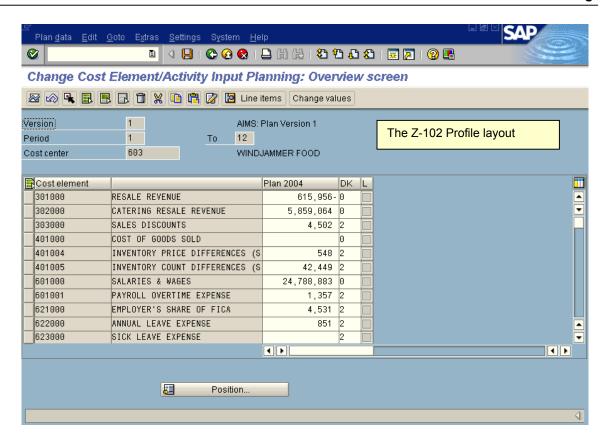


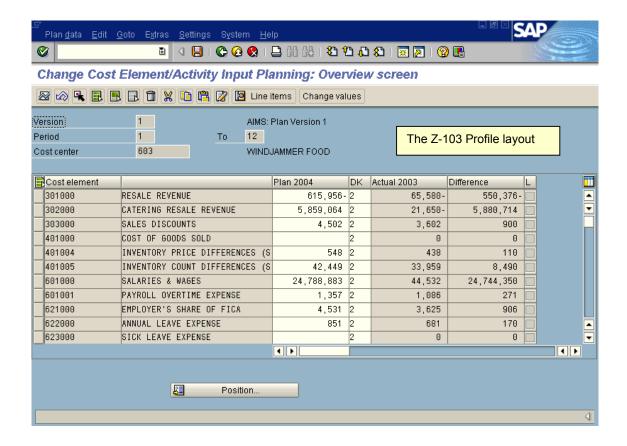
In you decide to change the profile, you must click on Settings and then Set Planner Profile. You will get a box that displays the current profile, click on the drop down menu to see the

other profiles available. Once you have selected one, double click on it and then hit the green check mark.









The Z-102 Profile Layout

The Z-103 Profile layout